

1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment

Regulars, by God!

Volume 1, Issue 8

August 15, 2006

FROM THE COMMANDER

Hello again from western Baghdad! Another month has passed and we are one month closer to coming home. This past month has been characterized by one of the two constants that have characterized our deployment – change. When I last wrote, I was fairly certain that we were going to be able to finish our deployment serving as part of 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division and with all seven of our companies from Fort Hood back together. That all changed again this past month.

We are now serving as part of 2nd Brigade of the 1st Armored Division. They are the force that was called forward from Kuwait to help the Division quell the growing unrest in Baghdad. Unfortunately, we have had to detach Team Bear – consisting of two infantry platoons from B CO and a tank platoon from C CO. They are now serving with 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry of the 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Geographically, they remain close to us but our Soldiers in Team Bear have now moved to Camp Striker. Because of their proximity, there is no need to change mail addresses because they can easily receive their mail through the battalion.

C Company has continued to support the security efforts of the infamous Abu Ghraib Internment Facility and will soon be paroled from that location to begin offensive combat operations. The facility will be turned over to the Iraqi government as part of the continuing process of returning control of all parts of the society to the Iraqis. Captain Ed Kennedy assumed command of C Company last month and he has made an immediate and positive impact on the unit. Ed comes to us from 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment and is a great young leader who I have already developed a great deal of faith and confidence in.

We are also now fortunate to have some new teammates. C Battery of 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment has been attached to our battalion and they have quickly integrated themselves into what we are doing. This battery of professional artilleryman has been in theater for nearly 10 months and we look forward to being able to serve our remaining time here with them.

The second constant is that our Soldiers continue to serve exceptionally well and are truly making a difference everywhere we go. They continue to improve the security in a volatile part of Iraq and have continually shown the Iraqi people hope for their future. Among many recent accomplishments, we have begun joint patrols with the Iraqi Police force in the Abu Ghraib area and are working to integrate them into the daily lives of Iraqi citizens. The Iraqis welcome their presence and like to see Iraqis helping secure their own country. We have also continued our partnership with the 3rd Brigade of the 6th Iraqi Army Division and they continue to improve their warfighting capabilities. We have recently conducted some highly successful missions together and they have shown marked improvements each time in the professionalism and their abilities.

I want each of you to understand that I truly believe that no Soldier is more important than anyone else in our battalion. Although infantryman and armor crewmen frequently receive the

attention for capturing insurgents or destroying caches of enemy weapons, it takes all of our Soldiers – now numbering over 1000 – to ensure our success. The intelligence analysts, supply sergeants, communications specialists, drivers, mechanics, and cooks – among countless others – are all critical to our success and we would fail without every one of them. Each one of them has my undying gratitude and my eternal thanks for what they continue to do each day in support of each other, our unit, the nation, and the Iraqi people.

If you have any concerns or issues during the coming month, please contact Captain Warren Litherland. He is our Rear Detachment Commander at Fort Hood and his duty is to assist our loved ones in the states while we conduct our mission here. The Brigade's Rear Detachment phone number can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Captain Litherland is doing a great job for all of us – especially during the trying days when the battalion suffers casualties and his personal presence is required to comfort family members. His efforts allow us to focus most of our efforts on the fight in Iraq, confident that he is taking care of so many things for us at Fort Hood and elsewhere. Our Family Readiness Group leaders continue to take care of the home front and we would also fail without them. They have my undying gratitude as well.

The Regulars continue to set the standard in Iraq and I am extremely proud of each one of our Soldiers. We are truly making a difference and living by our motto of “Deeds, Not Words.” Through it all, your support continues to be critical and I cannot say thank you enough for what you do for your loved ones. Please keep all of the Regulars in your thoughts and prayers.

Regulars, by God! Deeds, Not Words.

— Lieutenant Colonel Craig A. Osborne (Regular 6)

FROM THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Hello Folks,

Its mid-August and it hot here – really hot. We're eight months into this deployment, which puts us at two-thirds complete with our tour of duty. The time is flying by and won't be too much longer until we begin planning and preparing for our return to Fort Hood.

This brings me to my next subject – our return to Fort Hood. The Soldiers were recently presented with three options to choose from concerning their assignments upon our return. In a nutshell, each Soldier must decide to:

- a. Stay with 1st Brigade.
- b. Move to another brigade in the division – perhaps one that is moving to Fort Carson, CO.
- c. Leave the division for other assignments or scheduled schools.

There are many factors which effect decisions concerning these choices. If a Soldier is scheduled to ETS within the next year, then his only choice is to stay with 1st Brigade. First Brigade is not scheduled to move to Fort Carson, CO until sometime in 2009 so if staying on Fort Hood is your preferred choice, then option number one is your best bet.

For those Soldiers who desire a change in pace from 1st Brigade but want to stay with the 4th Infantry Division, then perhaps option 2 is your best choice. This one affords the Soldier the opportunity to move to one of the brigades schedule to begin movement to Fort Carson but also to stay with the division.

Some of our Soldiers have recently reenlisted for follow-on assignments at other locations, and for them the decision is already made. If there are Soldiers who desire a PCS move from Fort Hood and the 4th Infantry Division, they can request a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) move by choosing option 3. This is not a guarantee that they will get a PCS move, nor the unit or installation they request. The division and Human Resources Command at Department of the Army (DA) will make the final decisions based on needs of the unit and mission requirements.

And that statement of fact goes for all of the choices – the deciding factor will be based on needs of the division and the Army. Not everyone who asks to leave will be allowed to leave; not everyone who asks to stay will be allowed to stay. That's a fact.

The Soldiers have been briefed on these options and will be asked to make a decision within the next few days. Hopefully, all of our Soldiers have had an opportunity to include their spouses back home in on the decision process.

We continue to make great progress here. The battalion is completely gainfully and employed in several areas around the Baghdad International Airport area and working extremely hard under some very austere conditions. Keep them in your prayers and we anxiously look forward to our redeployment. Thanks to all of you back home who keep our homes and lives in order back there – we couldn't do what we do here without what you do for us back home. Until next month...

Regulars by God!

— Command Sergeant Major Richard Beal (Regular 7)

A COMPANY – GATOR

Another month has passed and the men of A Company continue to excel in all aspects of operations in Western Baghdad! Operations are picking up as we are moving from the reconnaissance phase of operations into more focused missions based on the current situation. The Soldiers have pushed very hard this month and will continue to do so for the remaining three and a half months in theatre. Second and 3rd platoons have begun a rotating schedule where they deploy forward in our area for 48-72 hour periods without returning to the patrol base. This has proved very effective. They each have been responsible for numerous cache finds and the detention of dozens of enemy personnel. Second Platoon (Tank) continues to prove an invaluable asset to this company as well. They recently found a cache consisting of 138 x 155mm artillery rounds, greatly disrupting enemy forces operating in our area.

The political and enemy situation continues to change rapidly here in Baghdad and has brought about a number of changes inside our company. The first major change is the expansion of our area of operation. With the recent loss of B Company to 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the battalion was required to redraw some of our internal company boundaries. Our company will remain in our previously assigned area but will also assume responsibility for additional battlespace formerly owned by D Company.

More importantly, we received two additional platoons of combat power to offset the assumption of additional battlespace. The cross attachment of the Scout Platoon will greatly enhance the companies ability to execute full spectrum operations due their experience over the last six months, their versatility, and ability to conduct reconnaissance or direct action missions. Additionally, we would like to welcome 1st Platoon, C Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment as our fifth platoon of combat power. They have been staged in Kuwait for the last 9 months as the theatre reserve. They are well trained, eager to execute operations, and have already provided a positive, energetic boost to this company.

I again had the honor of promoting a number of our Soldiers this month. This is always a positive event as they are formerly recognized by the Army for their outstanding service and their demonstrated potential for increased responsibility. We in A Company certainly look forward to seeing these young Soldiers progress through the ranks of the Army. The names of those promoted are:

- Specialist Rodger Kelley to Sergeant
- Corporal Dadran Bryant to Sergeant
- Corporal Kenneth Vest to Sergeant
- Specialist Jason Smith to Sergeant
- Private First Class James Clark to Specialist
- Private First Class Elliott Stewart to Specialist
- Private First Class Anthony Valentine to Specialist
- Private Second Class Sergio Fulgencio to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Bernardo Mariscal to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Raymond Raspberry to Private First Class

We also had Specialist Bryan Crowder reenlist this past month. I commend him for his continued service in the Army and A Company will continue to benefit from his service.

In closing, I would like to say that I could not be prouder of these men. They continue become more effective in our area with each passing day. They are aggressive, focused, and are ready for any challenge that awaits them. Thanks again for your continued support and I will try to ensure that all the Soldiers have adequate resources available to keep in touch with you all back home.

—Captain Drew Conover (Gator 6)



The "Roughnecks" of Second Platoon



Second Platoon "Tank" on Patrol in Western Baghdad



Second Platoon Takes a Break Before Another Mission



SFC Griffin Providing Overwatch at a Traffic Control Point



Third Platoon "Wardogs" Searching for Caches in Ibrahim Bin Ali

B COMPANY – BEAR

To the families of Bravo Company,

Hello from Abu Ghraib. I hope this letter finds you well as we complete the eighth month of our deployment. We have come full circle in the last forty-five days as we have spent our time familiarizing ourselves with our new area of operations, and then turning it over to the Soldiers of D Company and C Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment.

As you have likely heard, B Company will be moving once again. We will be moving to Camp Striker – the camp adjacent to the battalion's headquarters at Camp Liberty. We will once again be attached to 2nd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division – as a company this time – and operate in South Baghdad. We do not yet know our specific mission, but we are executing this move as part of a larger plan to provide enhanced security for the people of the greater Baghdad area. Our 2nd and 3rd Platoons will accompany us in the move while 1st Platoon will be detached to C Battery. 1st Platoon will remain with Task Force Regulars in our current area so that they

may secure key infrastructure in the Abu Ghraib district. In exchange for the loss of 1st Platoon, we welcome the attachment of Second Lieutenant Moosey, Sergeant First Class McCallum, and the Soldiers of 1st Platoon, C Company as we conduct operations together in the future.

We extend congratulations the following Soldiers who have earned promotions.

- Specialist Anthony Alexander to Sergeant
- Specialist Jayson Arnote to Sergeant
- Specialist Jeffery Henley to Sergeant
- Specialist Joshua Milstead to Sergeant
- Specialist Omar Rivera to Sergeant
- Private First Class Curtis Phillips to Specialist
- Private Second Class Teddy Angulo to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Nathaneal Devito to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Michael Kassens to Private First Class
- Private Second Class David Nathan to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Tristan Soliman to Private First Class

I would like to congratulate Sergeant Dustin Wright and Specialist Brian Smith on their decisions to continue their enlistment in the Army. We thank them and their families for their continued commitment and sacrifice.

I'd like to extend a special thanks to Erin Jones for her tremendous service to the families and Soldiers of B Company during the past ten months as our Family Readiness Group (FRG) leader. Her superb work was noticed throughout the brigade and she was selected to become the 1st Brigade FRG Department of the Army Representative. This means she will now be providing assistance to all of the FRGs within the Raider Brigade. Luckily for us, Erin will still remain active, albeit to a lesser degree, in the B Company FRG. I'd like to welcome Melissa Marler as the company's new FRG leader. She has been a great help to Erin in the past and I look forward to her serving as our new FRG leader in the coming months. All the Soldiers of 1st Platoon and B Company congratulate her and her husband, Staff Sergeant Paul Marler, on their 15 minutes of fame in the DFW International Airport as he returned on Environmental Leave (see attached picture).

I ask that your thoughts and prayers continue to be with our Soldiers...particularly those wounded during this past month's operations – Sergeant Keven Szczublewski, Sergeant Jaysan Arnote, and Private First Class Jacob Brannon. Thank you for your continued support and patience throughout the deployment. I understand that the unpredictability of your Soldier's schedule, amongst all the other unknowns, adds a good deal of anxiety. Know they are doing an outstanding job in accomplishing all that is asked of them, and you have much of which to be proud.

—Captain Matthew Weber (Bear 6)



SSG Marler and His Wife, Melissa, Kiss After Renewing Their Vows at the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport as He Returned on Leave



SGT Valley Hands Out Iraqi Flags and T-Shirts to Local Children While on a Patrol



SPC Cosper Searches for Caches on a Recent Mission



SSG Keicher and SPC Kugler Provide Overwatch from Their Bradley Fighting Vehicle



SSG Miller Pulls Security During a Patrol in Khan Dhary

C COMPANY – COPPERHEAD

Family and Friends of Copperhead Company,

First off you may notice our name has changed – we are no longer in a state of Chaos and have become C Company Copperhead. As we shed the skin of our old name, the company

remains the same set of outstanding warriors – executing a broad range of missions but always ready to strike hard at a moments notice.

As you know, C Company has been conducting the security mission for Abu Ghraib for the past few weeks and doing an exceptional job. The company has successfully defended this national-level, strategic target from all potential attacks and is about to hand over the detention facility to the Iraqi Government. Our Soldiers worked together with the Mortars from Headquarters and Headquarters Company and A Battery, 4th Battalion, 42nd Field Artillery to secure the site. When this mission closes, it will be time for C Company to move on to new challenges.

For our next mission set the company will operating from Camp Liberty where the Soldiers will be living with several well-deserved amenities they have not had too much of since being in Iraq. Soldiers will be living in a trailer with air conditioning, able to shop at the best PX in the country, and enjoy an outstanding meal at the dining facility with a vast selection of food. While staying at Camp Liberty, the Soldiers of C Company will once again be able to prove just how good they are as we transition to yet another area to help provide a safe and secure Iraq. The Soldiers are excited to get back on their tanks and continue to conduct combat patrols. The men of Copperhead have impressed me from the start with their professionalism and dedication to the mission, I can only hope to continue to build on their success through the remainder of the deployment.

I want to congratulate to the following Soldiers who were recently promoted:

- Second Lieutenant Ryan Thompson to First Lieutenant
- Specialist Rey Aguilar-Arciva to Sergeant
- Private First Class Jerry Dunlap to Specialist
- Private First Class Shea Moyer to Specialist
- Private First Class Ronald Robinson to Specialist
- Private Second Class Richard Suarez to Private First Class

We also had three Soldiers reenlist over the past month. Sergeant David Wallace and his wife Brenda from Headquarters Platoon reenlisted for Germany. Specialist Bob Ward and his wife Shannon of 1st platoon and Specialist Robert Patitucci and his wife Shawna of Headquarters Platoon both reenlisted for stabilization at Fort Hood. I commend these Soldiers, Non Commissioned Officers and their families for continuing their service in the Army as we all benefit from their dedication to serving our country over the coming years.

Finally, I want to take a moment to introduce myself as the new commander of C Company. My name is Ed Kennedy. I am originally from Danbury, Connecticut, and I am truly honored to be working with your loved one here in Iraq. I took command on 16 July and the Soldiers have been doing a remarkable job, you should all be proud of them all. We can not thank you enough for all the support and encouragement you provide on a daily basis. I look forward to getting to know you all and to continue to work with you and your loved ones.

—Captain Ed Kennedy (Snake 6)



Third Platoon at the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility



Sunset at the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility



Copperhead Moving Out!



Copperhead's Headquarters Platoon



SGT Fellers and His Recovery Vehicle Helps the Contractors from KBR at the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility

D COMPANY – DEATH DEALER

Greetings all from sunny Iraq...

The Dealers are, once again, one month closer to coming home to our families and friends. And, believe me, the Soldiers know it... many of them religiously keep track of the number of days until the projected date when they can come home to see you all. You are always in the backs of their minds and in many of their conversations as they continue to conduct their daily missions.

We experienced some changes this month as plans changed in response to the security in neighboring Baghdad. Our initial plan to move back to Camp Liberty from Patrol Base Courage was changed while we were conducting the move and we are going to remain at the patrol base for the foreseeable future. Through it all, our Soldiers toughed it out and continued the fight. While all the Soldiers know that living conditions here do not compare with Camp Liberty, we know that everyone is trying to make our lives better by improving the living conditions present. And everyone is also motivated by being one month closer to coming home.

The last minute change in plans also changed the area that the company is responsible for. Our new area is new to us – but not to the other companies in the battalion. We would like to thank the Gators and the Bears for their help in showing us what they have learned thus far so we can build on their information rather than start from scratch.

This month, we welcomed several new people to the Dealer family. We received a new NCO, Sergeant Jason Daniels, who came to us from the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas. We also welcome his wife of 9 years, Maria, and their four year-old son, Quaelan, who will be staying in Killeen. We got good news that Sergeant Timothy Lyon – our maintenance team chief – and his wife, Krystin, had their third child this past month. Sergeant Lyon was able to head home on R&R just in time to see the birth of his daughter, Alexi. We welcome both the entire Daniels family and Alexi Lyon to the team.

We would like to send a special thank you to all of you who continue to stand behind and support us. Our prayers will be with you.

Deeds, Not Words!

—Captain Joshua Michaels (Dealer 5)



SGT Lyon and His Newborn Baby Girl—He Made it Home on Leave Two Days Before She Was Born



A Dealer HMMWV Provides Overwatch of a Historic Location Used by Insurgents



SGT Daniels Looks for a Home Inside a Tent at Patrol Base Courage

E COMPANY – KILLER

From the Commander...

Dear Friends and Family,

I hope this letter finds you all well and that you are enjoying a toasty August in Texas. As we near the end of my first full month in command, I remain in awe of the daily contributions your loved ones make to the military mission and the equally important task of taking care of each other. July was a long, hot month where we began to operate in the aftermath of June's many changes. While undertaking two completely new missions in a new area of operations and learning to work with a new commander, the Killers proved again – in grand fashion – that they are among the best prepared and most consistent Soldiers in the Army.

The beginning of July brought with it the responsibility to conduct Improvised Explosive Device (IED) clearance operations across the battalion's area. As part of a rotating schedule, Sapper platoon was first to undertake the "Ironclaw" mission and they performed magnificently. The Sappers quickly applied the many lessons learned from our relief of the 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division Engineers. The attention to detail and extra effort it took to learn to operate many new pieces of equipment paid off as the Killers launched a successful campaign to keep IEDs off of the roads and allow our battalion's Soldiers to maneuver freely.

While Sapper was busy hunting IEDs, Dogpound turned its attention to supporting the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) teams in destroying IEDs and detonating caches of enemy munitions and equipment. Under Dogpound's watchful eye, two EOD teams destroyed dozens of IEDs and helped keep our Soldiers safe in their missions.

The Headquarters boys turned out a wonderful effort to keep the company running smoothly and, as always, cover down where needed to accomplish the company's many disparate tasks. With Soldiers tasked out to many different missions, the headquarters troopers conducted convoy operations, security for digging assets, and escorts for battalion assets across the battle space. All of the Killers contributed greatly to our successes this past month and all are helping to keep each other's spirits up during the long and hot months.

As always, I pray for your safety and well being as well as that of our beloved Soldiers. Please continue to support your loved ones as they continue to serve with courageous professionalism and I promise that I will continue to do everything in my power to accomplish our mission while ensuring the safety and welfare of those you hold dear.

God bless!

—Captain Sam Olan (Killer 6)

From the First Sergeant...

Friends and Family,

July was a great month for the Killers. After a busy June full of movements, changes of command and taking over a whole new area, the Killers launched into a busy July with operations in Western Baghdad. The Soldiers worked very hard and performed all duties very well, making us proud.

This past month was also a month full of promotions and reenlistments as our Soldiers stepped up to stay with the Army and take on more responsibility as new Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs). Sergeant Franklin Myers and Specialist Willard Peterson reenlisted to continue their careers and support the nation. Specialist Mike Peugh became the company's newest Specialist while we pinned sergeant stripes on three new NCOs – Sergeant Bobby Brown, Sergeant Aileron Rdiall, and Sergeant Robert Stevenson. Both the company and the Army will be better for the continued contributions of these wonderful Soldiers.

We continue to send Soldiers home on leave, and I hope that each family is enjoying the time spent with their loved ones. Please continue to support the Soldiers with letters and packages – they make a Soldier's week. Take care and God Bless!

—First Sergeant Willie Hogan (Killer 7)



1LT Chychota, SGT Stevenson, and SSG Parker immediately after SGT Stevenson's promotion to Sergeant



SSG Tate searches the brush along a canal for IEDs during a recent patrol



The Sapper Platoon Rehearses Operating the "Spork" of the Buffalo— a New Piece of Equipment to Help Us Locate IEDs



The Sapper Platoon Poses for a Photo Before Heading Out to Search for IEDs in Western Baghdad



SGT Crayton Mounts the Husky—Another Piece of IED-Hunting Equipment that We Have



SPC Shmuts Operates the SEE Truck During a Site Exploitation Mission in Search of the Remains of a Soldier Missing Since 2003

E COMPANY/4TH SUPPORT BATTALION – ELIMINATOR

As we close out July, it is hard to imagine that we have completed seven months in this deployment. Time is passing by quickly as we all anxiously wait being back at home with our friends and family. I am incredibly proud of the efforts that our Soldiers continually give to our mission everyday.

We've been given the honor to reenlist seven Soldiers in the last 30 days who all know the sacrifices they make everyday to keep our country free. Congratulations and thanks go to the following for making the commitment to continue to serve our great country:

- Specialist Marcus Cain
- Specialist Rafael Camarena
- Specialist Andrew Cook
- Specialist Robert Green
- Specialist Roger Peterson
- Private First Class Crystal Gardner
- Private First Class Tucker Tracy

There is nothing I enjoy more about being a commander than promoting Soldiers. Congratulations to the following Soldiers who have been promoted in the last 30 days:

- Specialist Jennifer Hartman to Sergeant
- Private First Class Marcus Cain to Specialist
- Private First Class Crystal Gardiner to Specialist
- Private First Class Shyanne Knisley to Specialist
- Private First Class Rebeka McCormick to Specialist
- Private First Class Gregory Metcalfe to Specialist
- Private First Class Christopher Shearon to Specialist
- Private Second Class Pheum Kim to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Brent Othermedicine to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Richard Suarez to Private First Class

Although I'm sure our Soldiers would like to spend their birthdays with you all, we continue to celebrate birthdays each month. Happy Birthday to the following Soldiers:

- First Lieutenant Harry Mars
- Sergeant Jeremy Scaggs
- Specialist David Ebersole
- Specialist Josh Gangl
- Private First Class Richard Suarez

Our Headquarters platoon has been incredibly busy over the past month. Sergeant First Class Howard and his Soldiers continue to impress me with their drive to provide the best possible meals to the Task Force. Not only are they doing their part in the Dining Facility, but they are cooking meals out at Patrol Base Courage. This is no minimal task as the temperature continues to rise and the conditions in the Containerized Kitchen only add to the heat. Their positive attitudes and high morale contribute to the battalion daily.

The Distribution platoon has once again exceeded all standards and expectations. First Lieutenant Harry Mars and Staff Sergeant Brian Denning have trained their Soldiers to be able to take on the role of an entire Support Battalion with a platoon-sized element. The efforts of this platoon were pivotal in the transition as we moved to yet another brigade's control. The Task Force is better each day due to the determination of these Soldiers.

The "Regulars" battalion could not have been nearly as successful without the untiring efforts of the maintenance platoon. The extreme heat is starting to wear on our vehicles and other necessary systems. Each day our mechanics work extremely hard to ensure that each company in the battalion continues to roll and can focus on their mission as we maintain their equipment.

—Captain Jennifer McDonough (Eliminator 6)



SFC Howard and CPT McDonough Promote SPC Hartman to SGT



PFC Coleman Prepares a Meal at Patrol Base Courage



PFC Russell Finishes Required Paperwork While Working in the Dining Facility on Camp Liberty



PFC Sweet Performs Weapons Maintenance



SGT Martinez and SPC McCormick Working on a Fueler



SPC Magee and PFC Tucker Reposition Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricant Products in the Motor Pool

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY – HAMMER

Hello to the Hammer and Regular Families!

Another month has passed and we are well into the second half of the deployment year. Thank you for your continued support as we look forward to our eventual return to the United States. We are working hard to maintain the combat focus that has ensured our safety and success over the past eight months.

The temperatures continue to rise – we are well over 110 degrees each day. Thankfully, just as all of you have become accustomed to the high temperatures there, we too have grown accustomed to the extreme temperatures here. We just adapt and continue to work hard with a few extra precautions.

This past month we promoted Corporal Michael Petty to Sergeant and Private First Class Patrick Blue to Specialist. Private First Class Christopher Bussaeus celebrated his 19th birthday on July 16th and Private Chad Gooding celebrated his 28th birthday on July 26th. Heather Crawford – wife of Private First Class Benjamin Crawford – also celebrated her birthday on July 30th. Congratulations to these individuals and any others who enjoyed a significant event in the past month.

We are currently attempting to decipher the options each Soldier will have as it applies to staying in or leaving the 4th Infantry Division upon our return to Ft. Hood. I am sure a lot of families will experience some degree of anxiety as you make your preferences but don't know for sure of the outcome. Please be confident in the fact that if your Soldier makes his preference known, every effort will be made to accommodate that request.

I wish all of you a safe and exciting summer. Thank you for taking care of matters at home that are difficult to control from here. We are getting closer and more anxious to come home. Have a great August!

God Bless You,

—Captain Troy Parrish (Hammer 6)



One of the Mortar Sections Poses for a Picture at the Baghdad West Powerstation



PFC Robertson Gets Surprised by the Camera in the Tactical Operations Center (TOC)



SPC Carr is Promoted to SGT by LTC Osborne and SGM Salinas in Front of the Battalion Headquarters



SPC Bledsoe of the Mortar Platoon Confirms Data Before a Fire Mission

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

As your loved ones approach me, I remind them about their attitudes towards our current circumstances and I have begun asking them the question, “What is the most important thing in your life?”

They have usually responded that family is most important to them and this is likely true for you as well. Our values do not change simply because our circumstances do! For the Soldiers here, I remind them that the important value of family does not need to be set aside for mission. We can creatively figure out ways to stay emotionally connected with those we love while being here. This helps decrease the friction created by geographic separation and helps maintain an important link so we do not have to continually struggle. The value of “family” is still honored, but we just need to do it in a different way while deployed. How can we maintain those important things when circumstances are beyond our control? We can do this by remembering the reasons why our family is important and making the most of our current circumstances. Since your loved one is in Iraq, it is important to send him or her cards, flowers, care packages, etc. so your loved one knows you care.

I know that the separation has not been easy but the good news is that your Soldier here thinks of you and values you highly. They are focused on the mission here which helps ensure your security while you are doing a fantastic job at taking care of the home front. We are really working on the same thing from different angles when we realize why we are doing what we do – it helps us approach change with gusto and not with grief.

Again, what is the most important thing in your life? Remember that each passing day brings us one day closer to being together again.

Please allow me to pray for you right now. *“Almighty God, you know the struggles, trials, triumphs and joys we have all experienced during this deployment. You are the God who makes a way when there seems to be no way. Right now I ask that you would wrap your loving, tender, compassionate arms around our families and loved ones. Keep them in your constant care and quicken our hearts and minds each day with the reality that You are taking good care of them. May you grant exactly what we need to sustain us throughout the rest of this separation. Change our attitudes and perspective to help us through the hard times we face. In the Holy Name of Jesus the Christ. Amen!”*

—Chaplain (Captain) John Hill

REENLISTMENTS

We continue to retain quality Soldiers in our Army through reenlistment. Reenlistment in a combat zone shows a great commitment to our nation and our Army – and the monetary bonuses are tax-free. Although the money is a nice incentive, our Soldiers continue to reenlist because they believe in what they are doing and want to be a part of something much larger than themselves. Our reenlistments this month have occurred at a variety of places including the Crossed Sabers in Baghdad, Patrol Base Courage, the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility, and Camp Liberty. We congratulate and thank the 19 Soldiers and their families that have reenlisted in the past 30 days. Their names are:

- Staff Sergeant Jeffrey Barker (HHC)
- Sergeant William Evans (HHC)
- Sergeant Christopher Hardt (D CO)
- Sergeant Franklin Myers (E CO)
- Sergeant David Wallace (C CO)
- Sergeant Dustin Wright (B CO)
- Specialist Marcus Cain (E/SC)
- Specialist Rafael Camarena (E/SC)
- Specialist Andrew Cook (E/SC)
- Specialist Bryan Crowder (A CO)
- Specialist Robert Green (E/SC)
- Specialist Jay Kaminski (HHC)
- Specialist Roger Peterson (E/SC)
- Specialist Willard Peterson (E CO)
- Specialist Brian Smith (B CO)
- Specialist Bob Ward (C CO)
- Specialist Roy Watson (D CO)
- Private First Class Crystal Gardner (E/SC)
- Private First Class Tucker Tracy (E/SC)



LTC Osborne Takes a Picture with SPC Cook and His Reenlistment Certificate at the Al-Faw Palace



1LT Rawlings Reenlists SGT Meyers in Front of the Company Command Post on Camp Liberty



CPT McDonough Reenlists SPC Camarena and SPC Peterson on the Balcony of the Al-Faw Palace



CPT Rudacille Congratulates SPC Watson After He Reenlisted in Front of the Ziggurat



CPT Weber Congratulates SPC Smith After He Reenlisted in the B Company Command Post



1LT Mars and SPC Gardner Pose for a Picture with the Certificate After She Reenlisted on Victory Base Camp



2LT Kallaher Congratulates SGT Hardt After His Reenlistment in Front of the Ziggurat



LTC Osborne Reenlists SSG Barker in Front of the 3500 Year Old Ziggurat in Our Area



1LT Thelen and SPC Crowder Pose for a Photo After the Reenlistment Ceremony



CPT Weber Reenlists SGT Wright at the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility



1LT Mars Reenlists PFC Cain on CAMP LIBERTY

PICTURES FROM AROUND THE AREA...



1LT Rawlings Takes a Picture with Whitney Terrell—a Reporter from the Kansas City Star Who Was with Us in July



CPT Conover, LTC Osborne, CPT Ruiz, and CPT Weber Outside of the B Company Command Post at the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility



LTC Osborne Pins a Purple Heart on SPC Arnote for Wounds Received During a Direct Fire Engagement in Khan Dhary



Iraqi Police and Our Soldiers Conducting Joint Patrols to Improve the Security in Shiha



An Outdoor Market Along a Road We Frequently Travel



1LT Armstrong is Promoted to CPT by LTC Osborne in the Battalion Tactical Operations Center (TOC)



SSG Jordan After Drinking His Sixth Cup of Tea with the Iraqi People



Patrolling Through a Populated Area



Iraqi Police and Our Soldiers Conducting Dismounted Patrols Together



SGT Magdaleno Reads a Letter from Home



PFC Mossburg and SPC Dorrough Pound a Picket into the Ground to Help Improve Our Area



The Mortar Platoon Firing at Night in Support of Operations



An Outdoor Market in Baghdad

HISTORY OF THE 1ST BATTALION, 22ND INFANTRY REGIMENT

The 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment was originally constituted on May 3rd, 1861 in the Regular Army as Companies A and I, 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry. It organized in May 1865 as Companies A and I, 22nd Infantry.

Companies A and I, 22nd Infantry consolidated on May 4th, 1869 and the consolidated unit was designated as Company A, 22nd Infantry. The 22nd Infantry was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division on March 24, 1923. The unit was then inactivated on June 30, 1927 at Fort MacPherson, GA.

The unit reactivated on June 1, 1940 at Fort McClellan, AL before inactivating again at Camp Butner, NC on March 1, 1946 upon conclusion of World War II.

The battalion reactivated on July 15, 1947 at Fort Ord, CA. It reorganized and was redesignated on April 1, 1957 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battle Group, 22nd Infantry and remained assigned to the 4th Infantry Division. It was reorganized and redesignated on October 1, 1963 as the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry. It later inactivated in August of 1984 at Fort Carson, CO.

The unit reactivated in May 1986 at Fort Drum, NY and was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division (Light). Relieved from this assignment in February of 1996, the 1st Battalion was reassigned to the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, TX.

Soldiers from the battalion have served in combat in nearly every campaign in our nation's history including the Indian Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Somalia, Bosnia, Haiti, and Iraq. The men and women of this battalion continue to serve the nation and uphold the standards established by our predecessors.

Regulars, by God! Deeds, Not Words



**1ST BATTALION, 22ND INFANTRY MAILING
ADDRESS**

Soldier's Rank and Name
__ Company/1-22 IN
Unit# 42506
APO AE 09344-2506

BATTALION REAR DETACHMENT COMMANDER
Captain WARREN LITHERLAND

BATTALION REAR DETACHMENT NCOIC
Sergeant First Class HERNANDEZ

Brigade Rear Detachment Phone Number
(254) 288-2840

The Rear Detachment Office is located in Building
10002 on Battalion Avenue at Ft Hood—across from
Bennett Health Clinic